

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory



**1. Name** (indicate preferred name)

PG# 68-4-35

historic Heid House

and/or common

**2. Location**

street & number 4914 Sheridan Street

\_\_\_ not for publication

city, town Riverdale

\_\_\_ vicinity of

congressional district

state Maryland

county Prince George's

**3. Classification**

**Category**

\_\_\_ district  
☒ building(s)  
\_\_\_ structure  
\_\_\_ site  
\_\_\_ object

**Ownership**

\_\_\_ public  
☒ private  
\_\_\_ both

**Public Acquisition**

\_\_\_ in process  
\_\_\_ being considered  
\_\_\_ not applicable

**Status**

☒ occupied  
\_\_\_ unoccupied  
\_\_\_ work in progress

**Accessible**

\_\_\_ yes: restricted  
\_\_\_ yes: unrestricted  
☒ no

**Present Use**

\_\_\_ agriculture  
\_\_\_ commercial  
\_\_\_ educational  
\_\_\_ entertainment  
\_\_\_ government  
\_\_\_ industrial  
\_\_\_ military

\_\_\_ museum  
\_\_\_ park  
☒ private residence  
\_\_\_ religious  
\_\_\_ scientific  
\_\_\_ transportation  
\_\_\_ other:

**4. Owner of Property** (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Laurretta McQuay

street & number 4914 Sheridan Street

telephone no.: 277-7470

city, town Riverdale

state and zip code MD 20737

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's County Courthouse

liber 4065

street & number Main Street

folio 679

city, town Upper Marlboro

state MD

**6. Representation in Existing** Historical Surveys

title None

date \_\_\_ federal \_\_\_ state \_\_\_ county \_\_\_ local

depository for survey records

city, town

state

## 7. Description

Survey No. PG-65-4-34

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Heid house is located on Sheridan Street, two blocks east of the B & O Railroad line in the old section of Riverdale Park, Maryland. The house, dating from circa 1910, sits on a corner lot with Taylor Road. The exterior materials and trim appear to be basically intact and in good condition.

The house is basically square, one and one-half stories high, three bays wide with both front and rear porches. The house is of frame construction, covered with blue shingles and a shingle roof, and supported on a concrete foundation. The dominant feature is the variations in the intersecting gambrel roof line. The side facades consist of a flared gambrel roof while the main facade has a gambrel dormer and the rear facade contains a small gable dormer. All roof lines overextend from the wall. Variations in the massing are created by the porches and closed-in spaces under the flaring eaves. A brick interior chimney is located on the intersection of the gable and the main roof.

The principal facade faces south towards Sheridan Street. It is asymmetrical with the entrance in the westernmost bay. A modern orange door has one square light at the top. Two single, 2/2 double hung windows are located in the other two bays. A triple window of 1/1 double hung lights is centered in the gambrel dormer and a small square vent is located in the peak of the dormer. All of the window door trim consists of a plain wooden box surrounds. Modern metal storm windows and doors have been added.

A one story porch is cut into the flair of the gambrel roof. The porch shelters the entire front and is constructed of wood with concrete steps and foundation piers. Four tapering square columns, with plain capitals, support a box cornice. An open wooden railing with square balusters surrounds the porch except at the steps. Lattice work has been placed between the piers to close off the area underneath the porch. An iron railing extends up both sides of the steps.

The west facade has an asymmetrical window configuration. Two 1/1 windows are located on the first story and two are spaced closer together under the point of the gambrel on the second story. The window trim is plain with flat, wooden, box surrounds.

The east facade also has an irregular fenestration pattern. While both the first two stories have 1/1 windows, they are of varying sizes and different locations. Like the opposite side, the upper level has two windows spaced under the point of the gambrel and three vents are in the peak. Three cellar windows and

4914 Sheridan Street  
Heid House

7. Description (cont.)

a door, half under grade, are located in the foundation.  
Foundation piers support the northern bay of this facade.

The rear, or north, facade is dominated by a large gable dormer and a cutaway porch in the western bay. The closed-in eastern bay extends out to the end of the flared roof line and is supported by concrete piers at the basement level. Two 2/2 windows are located in this section on the first floor and two smaller windows are placed in the gable dormer. The porch has a wooden railing similar to the front and lattice work placed above the handrail.1

## 8. Significance

Survey No. PG-68-4-36

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1910-1912 Builder/Architect unknown

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D  
and/or  
Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☐ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Heid house is a fine example of the early twentieth century "dutch colonial" cottage with intersecting gambrel roofs and flared roof lines supporting porches or interior spaces. It stands on a corner lot of the early section of Riverdale, an turn-of-the-century suburban community.

The subdivision of Riverdale Park was platted on land that belonged to the Calvert family of Maryland for much of the nineteenth century. In 1887, a 474 acre lot was sold to the Riverdale Park Company, a New York real estate firm, who planned to develop the subdivision of Riverdale Park.<sup>2</sup>

From its conception, Riverdale Park was promoted as one of the more desirable suburbs of Washington. Its location along the B & O Railroad line from Washington afforded both the convenience of an easy commute to the city and the picturesque quality of a rural subdivision. The subdivision's grid like streets were tree-lined and included open areas and circles. Most of the principal streets included such modern amenities as concrete sidewalks and sewers.<sup>3</sup> The schoolhouse, several goods stores, a church and both telegraph and telephone communication all enticed people who worked in Washington. By the early years of the twentieth century, close to eighty residences had already been erected.<sup>4</sup> Many of these houses were typical of the suburban ideal growing throughout the major cities of the United States; comfortable and affordable houses for the middle class ranging from lavish Queen Anne to simple cottage style. The Riverdale Park Company continued to sell land and development rose steadily through the first decades of the twentieth century.

The house at 4919 Sheridan Street was constructed between 1910 and 1912 by George J. Heid. The Riverdale Park Company sold two lots, 13 and 14 of block 21, to Heid in 1910 and tax assessments show a \$1400 improvement on the lot by 1912.<sup>5</sup> George Heid and his wife, Katherine, owned the property until 1923 when they deeded it, along with the neighboring lot 12, to a Henry

4914 Sheridan Street  
Heid House

#### 8. Significance (cont.)

Mostyn of Prince George's County.<sup>6</sup> In 1936, it is believed that Hughes A. Shank and his wife, Ruth, were living in the house and later became owners.<sup>7</sup> They maintained their residence here until Ruth, acting as a widow, sold the land in 1971 to Travis and Gladys Baker.<sup>8</sup> The Bakers did not live long in the house as Gladys died shortly thereafter and Travis sold the house to its present owners.

The house still retains its original massing and scale of a suburban cottage and thus remains in keeping with the character of the street as it appeared in the beginning of the suburb.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. PS-2746

Chain of Title, Prince George's County Land Records  
Prince George's County Tax Assessment Books, 1912-1915

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Block 17, lot 14

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle scale \_\_\_\_\_

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A 

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Zone Easting Northing

B 

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Zone Easting Northing

C 

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D 

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E 

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H 

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Verbal boundary description and justification \_\_\_\_\_

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
state	code	county	code

state	code	county	code
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## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Marcia M. Millerorganization George Washington Universitydate April 1990

street &amp; number \_\_\_\_\_

telephone \_\_\_\_\_

city or town \_\_\_\_\_

state \_\_\_\_\_

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
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21 State Circle  
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